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TWELFTH YEAR. NO. 345.

HOUSTON, TEXAS, MONDAY, MARCH 15, 1897.

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TODAY'S FEATURES.

Crete.
Proposition to prevent Macedonian question being opened.
Greece still preparing troops for war.
Russia has no sympathy with Greece whatever.
Greece calls for reserves.
Proclamation of autonomy.
Powers determined to blockade Cretan ports.

Cuba.
Campaign of General Castellanos near Puerto Principe.
American volunteer tells of trials in Cuba.
Story of Spanish cruelty near Havana.

Domestic.
Congressional forecast.
Mississippi river still rising. People surrounded by water.
Race troubles in Alabama.

Sport.
Opinions on Fitzsimmons' condition.
Betting on the fight.
Fitz simulated a share of the kinetoscope receipts.
Yesterday's training.
Goddard's manager proposed a match with Fitz.

Railroads.
Competition for business to gulf ports occasioned by the competition of the Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf.
The fastest run yet recorded.
Some Western lines charged with making wrong dealings on return Washington tickets.
Cattle in the condition, though rain will soon be badly needed.

Local.
Annual election of the Houston Schuetzenverein.
Meeting of the Swiss society.
A small roof fire.
New members for the Turnverein.
The docks for the week in the civil district court.
The work of a week trial.
A pilgrimage of the Christian Visitation society of the Westminster Presbyterian church.
Election of officers of the German society.
Arrangements for the San Jacinto Day celebration.
Keweenaw work near Houston.
An exciting runaway.

Philading Continued.
Canea, March 14.—Villaging began early at Candia, Heraklion and at this place and has continued. The Bishop of Nicosia remains here, though alone, in the hope of being able to save the metropolitan church from pillage. The landing of the European troops is expected immediately. The insurgents maintain a ceaseless cannonade at Spinalonga. They are in excellent spirits and the health and morale of the troops of Colonel Vassos show no sign of falling off.

The foreign admirals have not yet been informed as to the decision of the powers on their proposals of a week ago. Yesterday they telegraphed their respective governments asking that detachments of sailors, equal in number to those already landed at Candia, Retimo, Candiano and Sitta, be sent to relieve the present force, whose work is most harassing, comprising, as it does, the double function of police and firemen.

State Senator Dead.
Frankfort, Ky., March 14.—The sudden death of State Senator Jno. P. Sales at his residence here today and created a profound sensation among legislators. Sales was a democrat and prominent in the central office of the legislature. His death removes nearly the last body that Hungary, present minister for United States senator, will be elected when the joint ballot is held.

WASHINGTON.—President McKinley with Secretary Teller with Mr. and Mrs. Almon McKinley attended divine services at the Metropolitan Methodist church.

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100 Bushels Kaffir Corn.
100 Bushels Early Rose Potatoes.

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AGREEMENT OF THE POWERS.

Official Announcement of the Decision Reached by Them.

THEY WILL BEGIN AN IMMEDIATE BLOCKADE.

It Was Decided Not to Make a Reply to the Greek Note, but to Carry Out the Threat Contained in the Identical Note Sent to Greece by Establishing a Blockade.

Rome, March 14.—It is officially announced here this afternoon the result of four parleys of the powers yesterday (Saturday) is of a definite agreement not to reply to the Greek note, but to issue orders to the foreign admirals to establish an immediate blockade of Cretan ports, which will probably be in full operation tomorrow. This agreement is somewhat in the nature of a concession to Russia and France. Russia, during the middle of last week proposed with France seconding, the proposal of another joint note to Greece, insisting on the withdrawal of the troops, instead of an immediate resort by the powers to force Russia's action was inspired, it is stated, by a certain sympathy for Greece, but so many objections were raised by each power in turn by this suggestion, that the other course had been finally agreed upon. It is thought the way to carry out the threat made in the identical note will be the blockading of the Cretan ports and the landing of forces sufficient to insure the maintenance of order, leaving future action as to the fate of Crete to later negotiations. This was the view of Russia at the outset.

London, March 14.—The Daily Chronicle announces that a foreign ultimatum has been delivered to Greece announcing that the blockade of Crete and certain other Greek ports not yet named will begin on Wednesday. Some of the powers have decided that unless Greece yields or if she declares war on Turkey, measures still more severe will be employed, even to the point of utterly destroying Greece as a nation.

The Chronicle's Athens correspondent gives an account of an interview he has had with Commodore Reinick, who quotes from numerous official documents to disprove the charge of perfidy brought against him. Commodore Reinick denies that he withheld any warning or message of the powers from the insurgents and declared that the allegations to that effect have been made in order to shield the admirals from the ridicule with which they have covered themselves.

The London Times' correspondent at St. Petersburg says that the formal decision of Great Britain to the blockade programme was imparted to Russia on Friday. The English, Russian, German and Austrian admirals have already been instructed as to a blockade of Crete and Greece.

RUSSIAN OPINION.

How the Cretan Situation is Viewed at the Czar's Court.

St. Petersburg, March 14.—The official St. Petersburg Journal said this morning: "We recently stated the reasons which determined the attitude of the imperial government to the Cretan question. Unfortunately they do not seem adequately recognized in Athens. Humanitarian motives actuate the powers toward the Hellenic government. The Greek note in reply to the powers' endeavors, in spite of the practical utility of a system of autonomy for Crete, to prove that annexation to Greece will alone end a state of anarchy. While consenting to withdraw her ships, Greece persists that co-operation of her troops is necessary to the pacification of the island, after which a plebiscite should decide the fate of Crete."

"Such an attitude is unsatisfactory. The powers had not the patience in the present case to consult the opinion of the Greek government. They simply expressed to Athens in succinct terms the decision imposed by circumstances whereinto it was for Greece to conform. In refusing to heed this decision Greece gives clear proof that under a pretext of assuring a condition of peace and order in Crete she is really pursuing a much less disinterested object, namely annexation by surprise."

"The powers, though unanimously resolved to maintain peace in the East, can not sanction such designs. They find themselves compelled, though much against their will, to have recourse to vigorous measures which they shrink from adopting in regard to Greece. At the same time they will have the resources at their disposal, a sure means of pacifying Crete without the co-operation of the Greek troops."

"It is hoped that Greece, seeing that the powers are firmly resolved not to shrink from any measure of coercion necessary, will give way, thus removing the danger with which her present attitude threatens to European peace."

PREPARING FOR WAR.

Greek Troops Handled as Though Hostilities Had Begun.

Athens, March 14.—Everything remains in statu quo pending the action of the powers. But the minister of war is hastening in every possible way the military preparations precisely as if war were really declared. Great uneasiness is caused by the strained situation on the frontier. Graver advice is being received from Larissa. Dispatches state that 15,000 troops have been concentrated near Larissa. The Turks have formed two regular battalions to guard Thessalian passes, through which insurgent bands could enter Macedonia. The Turkish forces at Epirus were reinforced yesterday.

Among the Greek troops on the frontier there is an increasing desire to try conclusions with the Turks. A declaration of war is awaited with impatience in military circles at Larissa.

The Greek correspondents who were expected from Candia, arrived at Syra. They assert that Captain Amoretti urged them to leave because the Mussulmans threatened to dynamite the Greek consular, where the correspondents were staying. The Mussulmans firmly believed that the Greek correspondents were responsible for the burning of the governor's palace and week ago. The windows of the clubs and

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PROCLAMATION OF CRETAN AUTONOMY.

The Assurance of Autonomy Has Been Given, but It Is Couched in Very Indefinite Terms.

Canea, March 14.—Sir Alfred Billiott has been authorized to proclaim autonomy but without detail. The other consuls will soon receive similar instructions. A torpedo boat has just started to convey Billiott's instructions from the British admiral.

A Russian cruiser brings news that the insurgents bombarded Kio Amo yesterday. The town was set on fire in several places last night. Desultory firing continues around Canea.

Foreign men of war have gone to Sinakona, where insurgents and Greek volunteers with three guns are making an attack under Chief Coraces. The men of war will stop a further bombardment. Greek steamers are now allowed to anchor in this port. The two Greek men of war that were out of provisions have been revitalized. The admirals in communicating with the insurgents find considerable difficulty, owing to their ignorance of foreign languages; it is feared that the interpreters impart only what pleases them. Altogether, the administration of government on the island is in a state of general confusion owing to the conflict of authority.

Should European troops be landed to keep order and the Greeks be replaced, further difficulties are expected over the language. The Mussulmans complain that the Italians assault their women.

Canea, March 14.—The admirals have been instructed to confer with the consulates as to the best means of proclaiming the fact that Turkey has granted Crete complete autonomy. The hope is entertained that such a measure will help to pacify the island.

Great Britain has instructed Colonel Chermiside and Major Beer to remain at Canea. In addition to the Italian warships, one British ironclad assisted in the bombardment against the insurgent forces, commanded by Captain Coraces at Heirapetra.

London, March 14.—The correspondent of the Times at Canea says the official assurance of autonomy has been received at last, but in terms so vague that the insurgents placed no reliance upon it nor will they believe it possible until the Turkish garrison is replaced by European troops.



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MOBILIZING TROOPS.
Warning Given to the Porte Regarding the Creation of Ports.

Athens, March 14.—Royal decree summoning the remainder of the reserves is expected tonight. Prince Nicholas with his battery has been stationed on the frontier line. The king has consented that the war office should undertake the formation of a foreign legion in the event of the outbreak of war.

Thousands of horses and mules are arriving from abroad, the gift of rich Greeks, who are sending also large sums to the treasury for patriotic purposes. For the present the government does not seem embarrassed for money. The rate of exchange is rather lower than usual and specie for the payment of the coupons just due has been deposited without recourse to the usual purchases in the money market, which always affects exchange. Without doubt the foreign bond holders will suffer later from the cost of mobilization.

A corps of military telegraphers has sailed for Crete with a view to establishing communication between the various points occupied by the Greek troops. A committee of ladies is busy making uniforms and attending to the wants of thousands of Cretan refugees. Steamers are daily embarking troops for Thessaly.

The government has sent a strong protest warning Turkey that the erection of forts at Trevisio is a violation of the treaty of 1881 and holding the port responsible if this warning is disregarded. The Greek fleet in the Aegean gulf has been ordered to fire on Turkish ships annoying Greek fishing boats.

Snow is falling on the Macedonian frontier and the troops are suffering from cold and exposure. It is reported that disease has broken out among the Turkish troops who are largely young recruits badly fed and lodged.

PROTECTION AGAINST GREEKS.
Proposition to Prevent the Opening of the Macedonian Question.

London, March 14.—The Constantinople correspondent of the London Times says Russia has proposed to the powers to intervene in Bulgaria and Serbia to prevent the opening of the Macedonian question. Two hundred and fifty self-propelling torpedoes of a new model have arrived from Germany, to be sent to Smyrna, Salonika, Alexandretta, Trevesa and other ports as a protection against possible attacks by Greek cruisers.

Captain Muntaz bey, one of the best officers of the Turkish navy, has been imprisoned for making derogatory remarks as to the efficiency of the Turkish squadron. There are rumors of a serious massacre of Armenians by Turkish troops at Sivas and of bloody engagements between the Turkish and insurgents at Erania and Korassie in Epirus. The Armenians are cruelly oppressed in the Adala district and the ambassadors have complained to the grand vizier that an Armenian relief distributor has been murdered in Diakaria and robbed of his relief funds. The outrage was probably committed by Kurds. Sir Philip Currie and Mr. Terrell have demanded the punishment of the murderers and the restoration of the money.

Turkish Denial.
Washington, March 14.—The Turkish legation today gave out the following:

There has been published a telegram dated Constantinople the 12th instant, saying that fresh atrocities are threatened in Asia Minor, that Christians there are in a

TEXANS WANT CUBA TO BE FREE.

Naturally they want the latest news from the stricken island, the blood-drenched Pearl of the Antilles. Yesterday's Post gave it. Some of it wasn't in other papers, in fact much of it wasn't; here's a synopsis of that portion:

Colonel Santos with 700 Spanish attempted to surprise a camp of insurgents commanded by General Garcia and was badly defeated, he being killed, with several other officers and 135 men. The Spanish forces attempted to capture the famous dynamite mine, but it was blown up upon them with fearful effect.

A. R. Foster, a Texan, has arrived at Lake Charles, La., from the battlefields of Cuba, and he relates some heroic and cowardly deeds committed by the Spaniards. The war in Cuba has caused a deficit in the Spanish treasury of probably \$100,000,000, to meet which the Madrid cortes must decree new taxes in Spain or call for another public loan to meet the interest on the same. The real estate taxes in Cuba are to be increased 40 per cent.

Three large expeditions from the United States are said to have landed 250,000 rounds of ammunition, 2000 stands of arms, six small rapid fire guns, one ten-inch gun, three tons of dynamite, 300 cachaetes and 100,000 grenades.

A large expedition has been landed at Loma, about twenty miles northeast of Sagua. Antonio, it is said to be led by Holon, Castro and others. It is also stated that Texans are in the party.

The insurgents in the province of Havana are confident of success in the near future, and retreating without loss to themselves. It is understood that the insurgents are preparing combined attacks in

the provinces of Havana and Pinar del Rio. A correspondent of the Associated Press called on the insurgent general, Alejandro Rodriguez, on Wednesday from the East and obtained his views on home rule for Cuba. Independence alone will satisfy the insurgents.

Fitzsimmons declared that he intended making any more trouble about the rules. "I have given in on the subject," he said, "and there is nothing more to be said on the matter. We will fight as they rule. I am standing by what Julian said."

An Atlanta, Ga., man dreamed some one was trying to kill him, and awoke to find he had wounded himself, perhaps fatally.

The Texas Insurance men, after a conference at Waco, decided that the law in the Texas statute books against trusts had been amended since its passage to especially fit insurance agents of companies who combine in its rates, and the case against an agent for failing to enforce the rates was dropped with a thud.

The Post printed the full petition in the suit entered by the attorney general against the insurance companies.

The highhouse board gives notice that on March 31 the Galveston light vessel will be moved and moored in twenty-four feet of water.

The Houston Business League will take up the organization of a Home Industry Club at Houston.

deplorable condition and asserting that the situation in Pinar is extremely critical and bloodshed has occurred at Everck.

The Turkish minister is authorized by his government to officially declare these reports as absolutely false and unfounded.

REPLY OF THE PORTE.

It Intends to Concentrate Turkish Troops in Crete.

Constantinople, March 14.—The porte continues to adopt an arrogant tone in answer to the requests of the powers, replying to the collective note of the ambassadors of the 14th inst. the porte today announces in writing its intention to concentrate the Ottoman troops in Crete in the fortified towns as soon as the Greek troops have evacuated the island. The porte has also sent an identical request to the envoys of the powers, begging them to mediate the solution of the crisis.

Suggestions of Greece.
London, March 14.—That Greece seems to realize the unwillingness of the powers to give way, is outlined in rumored proposals and suggestions reaching London today from Athens. It is stated that a member of the Greek government declared this morning that Greece would accept for Crete a regime similar to that in Bosnia, which would leave inviolate the principle of non-annexation, while maintaining the integrity of the Ottoman empire and it is said he suggested that France should take the initiative in proposing the solution, remarking, "Unless France does this, she will have to watch carefully the action of Great Britain which is preparing to land a considerable force in Crete. It is to the interest of France to make friendly advances to Greece, whose support would give her naval supremacy in the Adriatic and the Mediterranean."

Germany Lands Arms.
London, March 14.—The Daily Mail's Cape Town correspondent states that Germany has recently landed numerous large shipments of munitions of war at Walvisch bay a circumstance which excites suspicion.

The Transvaal is also arming steadily. The shipments of ammunition, guns and military supplies from France alone amounting to 200 tons monthly. All are being lodged at important strategic points.

Recall of Billiott.
Athens, March 14.—The reported recall to London of the British consul, Sir Alfred Billiott, continues to be the subject of much comment in political circles. It is feared that his recall may be connected with a plan for the occupation of Crete, which, in view of the refusal of certain powers to take part in such move, might be restricted to Great Britain and might be the prelude to a much more prolonged occupation. The present uncertainty and the lack of definite intelligence is regarded in official circles as still further complicating the situation and rendering impossible any solution of a conciliatory character. The envoys of the powers at Athens held a long consultation today.

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